

Abengoa Mojave Solar Project

Toward a safe, clean energy future: The 250-megawatt Abengoa Mojave Solar Project will be located on private land in San Bernardino County. Interconnection with the CAISO grid will require upgrades to the transmission system that crosses public lands.

VITALS

Location: San Bernardino County, CA

Technology: Solar Thermal Parabolic Trough

Electricity production capacity: 250 megawatts

Company: Mojave Solar LLC (Victorville, California)



THE BLM ACTION -- BLM's decision authorizes:

- ✓ Five rights-of-way for Southern California Edison to run above-ground fiber optic line
- ✓ Approximately 17 miles of the 85-mile proposed fiber optic telecommunication network that crosses land managed by the BLM

BY THE NUMBERS - the project is expected to:

- ✓ Generate enough electricity to power approximately 75,000 – 187,500 homes
- ✓ Create up to 830 construction jobs and 60 permanent jobs
- ✓ Have an estimated construction payroll of \$272 million and spend an estimated \$121 million locally on construction materials and equipment
- ✓ Secure approximately \$1.2 billion through DOE's Recovery Act loan guarantee program
- ✓ Be located on 1,765 acres of private land, with 17 miles of fiber optic lines crossing public lands.

A SMART, COLLABORATIVE PROCESS: In April of 2009, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) committed to helping the nation reach its clean energy future by guaranteeing coordinated, focused processing, full environmental analysis and public review for specific renewable energy projects where the companies involved had demonstrated they were ready to advance to the formal environmental review and public participation process. In 2010 Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar approved nine large-scale solar projects in California and Nevada with a potential output of more than 3,600 megawatts.

A UNIQUE, INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP: On October 12, 2009 Secretary Salazar and Governor Schwarzenegger signed an agreement directing Interior agencies and California State agencies to create a federal-state initiative to advance development of environmentally appropriate renewable energy on U.S. lands in California. The Brown Administration has continued this. The BLM, U.S. Fish

and Wildlife Service, California Energy Commission (CEC), and California Department of Fish and Game, among others, coordinated closely during the permitting process. The CEC licensed the Abengoa Mojave Solar project on September 8, 2010.

STRONG ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW AND MITIGATION: The BLM is working closely with federal, state and local partners, members of the environmental and conservation community and interested stakeholders to advance environmentally sound projects.

- ✓ **Alternative Habitat:** Funding for acquisition and enhancement of over 100 acres of habitat suitable for desert tortoise, Mohave ground squirrel, and burrowing owl.
- ✓ **Avoiding Impacts:** The project will be constructed on previously disturbed, fallow agricultural land, thus avoiding impacts to pristine desert lands.
- ✓ **Climate Benefit:** According to the Department of Energy, the Abengoa Mojave Solar Project will avoid an estimated 350,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide each year.

THE BIG PICTURE: The Abengoa Mojave Solar Project is one of the projects that will help achieve the Administration and Interior initiative to make a rapid and responsible move to large-scale production of renewable energy on public lands. The State of California is working to achieve a 33% Renewable Portfolio Standard, which will require 15,000 – 20,000 MW of renewable energy by 2020.